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January 9, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/650,339; Filed: August 28, 2000
For: **Metal Binding Compounds and Their Use in Cell Culture Medium
Compositions**
Inventors: Epstein *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4630001/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
2. Return postcard.

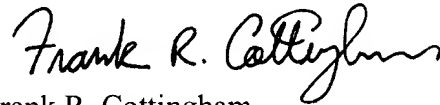
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
January 9, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency
credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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